

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MELBOU 00976 160938Z

11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 SCCT-02 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EUR-25 A-01 M-02 FBO-08

DRC-01 /133 W

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R 160130Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2308

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PINT, AS

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION BY GREEK CYPRIOTS AT  
CONSULATE GENERAL

REFS: (A) MELBOURNE A-32, JULY 16, 1974

(B) MANILA A-199, JUNE 28, 1974

(C) MELBOURNE TELEGRAM 0763

1. A GREEK CYPRIOT GROUP CLAIMING TO REPRESENT ENTIRE  
150,000 GREEK AND CYPRIOT COMMUNITY OF MELBOURNE  
AND VICTORIA DEMONSTRATED IN FRONT OF CONGEN SHORTLY  
AFTER 5:P.M. ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 15. THE DEMONSTRATORS  
ASSEMBLED IN THE CITY AND MARCHED THE APPROXIMATE MILE  
TO THE CONSULATE GENERAL'S LOCATION. THEY WERE  
ACCOMPANIED BY POLICE ESCORT AND MET AT CONGEN BY BOTH  
VICTORIAN AND COMMONWEALTH POLICE. POLICE INSPECTOR IN  
CHARGE ESTIMATED THE CROWD AT APPROXIMATELY ONE THOUSAND.

2. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP ATTEMPTED TO ENTER THE  
BUILDING BUT WERE STOPPED BY POLICE. ONE MAN WAS  
ALLOWED TO TAKE A PETITION TO THE CONGEN OFFICE ON  
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PAGE 02 MELBOU 00976 160938Z

THE EIGHTH FLOOR OF THE BUILDING AND SLIP IT UNDER THE

DOOR. PETITION WAS SIGNED BY BISHOP PANTELEIMON, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX PRIMATE OF AUSTRALIA, AND A MR. T. TOUMBOURON, PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY OF MELBOURNE AND VICTORIA. GIST OF PETITION, ADDRESSED PERSONALLY TO THE CONSUL GENERAL, "CONDEMNED AMERICAN INTERFERENCE IN THE CYPRUS PEACE TALKS AND THE ACTIVE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS THE INTRUSION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE INTO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CYPRUS". FACT THAT WE HAD TELEGRAM OF AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY'S PRESS CONFERENCE ON CYPRUS FOR GUIDANCE WAS VERY TIMELY AND USEFUL AND IS MUCH APPRECIATED.

3. IN A HIGHLY EMOTIONALLY CHARGE ATMOSPHERE THE DEMONSTRATORS CHANTED AND SHOUTED SLOGANS, WAVED PLACARDS AND ATTEMPTED TO ENTER THE BUILDING BUT WERE STOPPED BY POLICE. ONE DEMONSTRATOR TOOK OFF HIS SHOE AND THREW IT THROUGH THE FIRST FLOOR WINDOW OF ANOTHER TENANT IN THE BUILDING. NO OTHER DAMAGE OR VIOLENCE TOOK PLACE.

4. COMMENT: WE WERE IN TOUCH WITH POLICE THROUGHOUT DAY AND WORKED CLOSELY WITH BOTH THE VICTORIAN AND COMMONWEALTH FORCES TO ENSURE MAXIMUM SAFETY OF CONGEN PERSONNEL AND PREMISES. HOWEVER, THESE ANTI-U.S. DEMONSTRATIONS ARE A RECURRING PHENOMENON AND WILL PROBABLY NOT ABATE. I WANT TO STRESS THAT SITUATIONS SUCH AS THIS WERE PRECISELY TYPE OF ACTIVITY I REFERRED TO IN AIRGRAMS AND TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE. PHYSICAL SECURITY OF THIS CONSULATE GENERAL IS POOR AND ANY GROUP WHICH SERIOUSLY INTENDS TO DISRUPT OUR ACTIVITIES OR CAUSE REAL DAMAGE CAN DO SO BECUASE UNRESTRICTED ACCESS FROM PUBLIC STAIRWAYS IS POSSIBLE. THE FACT THAT TWO AUSTRALIAN COMPANIES SHARE THE EIGHTH FLOOR WITH CONGEN MAKES CLOSING OFF OF THAT AREA IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT INFRINGING UPON THE PUBLIC ACCESS TO THESE COMPANIES. ONCE AGAIN I MUST EMPHASIZE THAT CONSULATE GENERAL'S PHYSICAL SECURITY MUST BE IMPROVED BY INSTALLING SECURITY WALLS TO BLOCK ACCESS TO EIGHTH AND NINTH FLOORS VIA PUBLIC STAIRS. EVENTUALLY, FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MELBOU 00976 160938Z

BOTH SECURITY AND OPERATIONAL REASONS, WE MUST ALSO OBTAIN THE ENTIRE EIGHTH FLOOR FOR OUR OWN PUSPOSES. BRAND

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740841/aaaabjgk.tel  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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